

Mr. Parker began his Chairmanship in 2000 and has since worked diligently to protect and to promote conservative ideals and values in South Mississippi. He has proved to be not only an outstanding Chairman, but also an asset in helping to grow the Republican Party. From local elections to the Governor's race, Mr. Parker is well known throughout the State for his key involvement and noteworthy enthusiasm.

Outside of his political work, Mr. Parker is notorious within his community for his continued support of local charities and willingness to lend a hand to those in need.

Mr. Parker is a true public servant and strong community leader dedicated to providing a better future for our country. He has been an invaluable part of the fabric of the Jones County Republican Party, and his leadership will be truly missed.

Mr. Parker, on behalf of the United States Congress, thank you for your hard work and commitment as Chairman of the Jones County Republican Party. I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 430, I was unavoidably detained at a personal doctor's appointment.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes".

CELEBRATING HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY'S CENTENNIAL YEAR

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to recognize Humboldt State University's Centennial Year. Founded in 1913, Humboldt State University is the only state university in coastal Northern California and in my Congressional District. The university has made major contributions to the intellectual life, culture and economy of the North Coast, California and the nation.

One hundred years ago, on June 16, 1913, North Coast citizens had the foresight to help formally establish Humboldt State Normal School and to pledge \$12,000 and 12 acres of land to the school. Humboldt State University formally opened on April 6, 1914, and has since awarded more than 55,000 degrees to students from diverse economic and ethnic backgrounds.

Humboldt State University offers a broad array of academic programs and an outstanding college experience for 8,000 students each year, while contributing greatly to the regional community. The annual economic impact of Humboldt State University is estimated to be \$190 million on the North Coast and \$400 million statewide.

Humboldt State University is widely known for the personal attention faculty provide to students, and for the hands-on experiences

which complement classroom learning. The Humboldt State University faculty has established a strong reputation for excellence in teaching and research.

A longstanding commitment to environmental and social responsibility permeates the Humboldt State University curriculum and campus culture, which has enabled its alumni to make a difference wherever they live.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Humboldt State University for its many academic achievements and for the services it provides to many students throughout the state and nation. I encourage my colleagues and the North Coast community to join me in celebrating the university's centennial and in offering best wishes for its next 100 years.

WHAT IS THIS ADMINISTRATION'S POLICY IN SUDAN?

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise to submit a letter I sent today to President Obama regarding Sudan as well as a copy of my Darfur trip report which I issued in July 2004 after having been a part of the first Congressional delegation to the region. Just months later then-Secretary of State Colin Powell described what was happening as genocide—a descriptor that President Obama himself used as recently as 2009.

And yet, the Sudan Special Envoy position remains vacant after nearly five months. Violence, displacement and atrocities continue in Darfur and the Nuba Mountains. And Sudanese President Bashir continues to travel the globe with virtual impunity.

What is this administration's policy in Sudan?

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, August 2, 2013.

Hon. BARACK H. OBAMA,

The President, The White House, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: I have written you on more than one occasion about the persistent vacancy of the Sudan Special Envoy post, which has been unfilled for nearly five months. This is indefensible given the current state of affairs in Sudan.

I enclose for your reference a recent piece that Sudan expert and advocate Professor Eric Reeves authored for the Washington Post. He paints a grim picture about the situation in Darfur, lamenting that this genocide, which once captured our collective national outrage, now seems to have disappeared from public view leaving us with the misperception that the violence has subsided and the crisis resolved. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Reeves writes "... the slaughter has continued in Darfur: Some 500,000 people have died in the past 10 years from war-related causes. In 2009, as president, Obama again declared that 'genocide' was occurring in Darfur, yet little followed from this." He continued, "But the people of Darfur have been left defenseless largely because of an unforgivable lack of attention and leadership by the United States. The policies of Obama's administration have hardly matched his rhetoric. Indeed, in a bizarre reprise of policies for which Obama had sharply criticized the Bush administration, on

Nov. 8, 2010, senior administration officials explicitly 'decoupled' Darfur from the largest bilateral issue between Washington and Khartoum: the latter's place on the U.S. list of state sponsors of terrorism."

While Reeves' focus in the enclosed editorial is on Darfur—that region is far from being the only humanitarian and human rights catastrophe in Sudan. Last year I visited Yida refugee camp in South Sudan. I heard harrowing stories from a growing refugee population that had fled the Nuba Mountains, including indiscriminate aerial bombardments aimed at civilian populations, the use of food as a weapon of war, people driven from their homes and targeted for killing because of the color of their skin. In short I heard echoes of my time spent in Darfur as the first member of the House of Representatives to visit in July 2004.

Last year I offered an amendment to the State and Foreign Operations Appropriations bill which would have cut non-humanitarian foreign assistance to any nation that allowed Sudanese President Omar Bashir, an internationally indicted war criminal, into their country without arresting him. The amendment was adopted with bipartisan support by voice vote.

The amendment I proposed would have effectively isolated Bashir and made him an international pariah as is befitting a man with blood on his hands. It is noteworthy that the amendment garnered the support of 70 prominent Holocaust and genocide scholars. Dr. Rafael Medoff, director of the Wyman Institute, which initiated a letter of support to the administration from these scholars, said: "Halting aid to those who host Bashir would be the first concrete step the U.S. has taken to isolate the Butcher of Darfur and pave the way for his arrest. If the Obama administration is serious about punishing perpetrators of genocide, it should support the Wolf Amendment."

Sadly that support never materialized. In fact your administration actively sought to remove this language from the final bill. Meanwhile, Bashir remains free to travel where he pleases, and the people of Sudan see no end in sight to their suffering and U.S. policy is in tatters.

The FY 2014 State and Foreign Operations Appropriations bill, which just last week passed out of the full committee, included language consistent with the amendment I offered last year. In seeking to isolate Bashir, our options are limited but far from nonexistent.

Will your administration support this effort? Will Bashir be made to face some modicum of consequence for his actions? Will the special envoy position be filled before the fall?

Professor Reeves' piece featured this quote from you: "We can't say 'never again' and then allow it to happen again, and as a president of the United States, I don't intend to abandon people or turn a blind eye to slaughter." I wish, and more importantly the suffering people of Sudan wish, we had seen an ounce of that moral clarity and conviction since you took office. Sudan has historically been a bipartisan issue. We may be from different parties but I had thought, based on your campaign rhetoric, that this might be an area of common cause.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

FRANK R. WOLF,
Member of Congress.

[From the Washington Post]

CIVILIANS IN SUDAN'S DARFUR REGION FACE
WHOLESALE DESTRUCTION

(By Eric Reeves)

After years of obscurity and little reliable international reporting, the vast human catastrophe in Sudan's Darfur region is again

in the news. It was regularly making headlines before 2008, when the then-five-year-old genocide in Darfur had claimed hundreds of thousands of African lives, but a lack of sustained mainstream attention meant that the surging violence fell off the radar.

Few could have predicted that this remote and obscure region in western Sudan would galvanize American civil society. Then again, how could the loss of attention have been so rapid?

The United Nations recently estimated that 300,000 Darfuris had been displaced in the first five months of this year; more than 1 million civilians have been displaced since the fall of 2008. Human Rights Watch recently reported that “satellite images confirm the wholesale destruction of villages in Central Darfur in an attack in April.” The attacks were directed by Ali Kushayb, who was indicted in 2007 by the International Criminal Court for crimes against humanity.

Radio Dabanga—an extraordinary news network organized by Darfuris both displaced and still in the region—provides daily, highly detailed accounts of events in Darfur. Although rarely cited by news organizations, which themselves have no access to Darfur, Radio Dabanga has long reported brutal assaults on camps for the displaced, chronic breakdowns in the vast humanitarian effort in Darfur, an epidemic of rape and the appropriation of African lands by Arab militias, which ensures continued instability and displacement.

The ethnic animus in the assaults remains clear, although in recent years, conflicts among Arab tribes have become increasingly destructive. The regime in Khartoum, which cannot defeat the Darfuri rebels militarily and chooses not to address their legitimate grievances, has resumed its scorched-earth campaign, using Arab and non-Arab militias against anyone thought to be providing support to the rebels. Central Darfur's Jebel Marra region has been the site of a three-year humanitarian blockade and endless aerial bombardment by Russian-built cargo planes that have been crudely retrofitted to drop shrapnel-loaded barrel-bombs. Useless against military targets, these attacks have caused countless civilian casualties while also destroying property and livestock among the region's primarily non-Arab Fur people.

Although violence has ebbed and flowed over the past decade, it has accelerated sharply in the past year. Yet until recently, news coverage has been paltry and often deeply misleading. In February 2012, the New York Times declared from western Darfur that “one of the world's most infamous conflicts may have decisively cooled,” citing “returns” by the displaced as evidence. In fact, half a million people had been displaced in the preceding two years and violence was unrelenting. Last August, western North Darfur became another arena of violence during a tribal-based land grab for the Jebel Amir gold mines. The major town of Kutum was overrun by Arab militias that looted humanitarian resources. Nearby Kassab camp was also overrun and emptied of some 30,000 people within a day.

As a senator in 2004, Barack Obama called the atrocities in Darfur “genocide.” He said so again as a presidential candidate in 2007 and chided the Bush administration for its accommodation of Khartoum. Invoking Rwanda and Bosnia as justification for humanitarian intervention in Darfur, Obama said, “We can't say ‘never again’ and then allow it to happen again, and as a president of the United States, I don't intend to abandon people or turn a blind eye to slaughter.”

But the slaughter has continued in Darfur: Some 500,000 people have died in the past 10 years from war-related causes. In 2009, as

president, Obama again declared that “genocide” was occurring in Darfur, yet little followed from this. To be sure, much has intervened in the years since Obama was elected, including the Arab Spring, the drawdown from Afghanistan, rising tensions with China and a collapsing world economy. These issues, which impinge more directly on U.S. interests and obligations than does Darfur, have consumed much of the administration's energies.

But the people of Darfur have been left defenseless largely because of an unforgivable lack of attention and leadership by the United States. The policies of Obama's administration have hardly matched his rhetoric. Indeed, in a bizarre reprise of policies for which Obama had sharply criticized the Bush administration, on Nov. 8, 2010, senior administration officials explicitly “decoupled” Darfur from the largest bilateral issue between Washington and Khartoum: the latter's place on the U.S. list of state sponsors of terrorism. That marked a shift in attention to South Sudan and implementation of the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement, but the signal sent to Khartoum was that the regime could resume genocidal counter-insurgency warfare in Darfur. The campaign has been more chaotic than the early years of the genocide (2003 to 2005) but no less destructive, and with the continuing collapse of humanitarian efforts because of growing insecurity, civilian destruction could be wholesale.

It's time to “re-couple” Darfur to all bilateral issues between Washington and Khartoum.

CONGRESSMAN FRANK R WOLF DARFUR TRIP
REPORT (JULY 2004)

It was just 10 years ago—in 1994—when the world stood by and watched as more than 800,000 ethnic Tutsis were systematically murdered in Rwanda by rival extremist Hutus.

When the killing finally ended after 100 days—and the horrific images of what had taken place were broadcast around the globe—world leaders acknowledged it was genocide, apologized for failing to intervene, and vowed “never again.”

That pledge from the international community is being put to the test today in western Sudan, where an estimated 30,000 black African Muslims have been murdered and more than 1 million have been driven from their tribal lands and forced to live in one of 129 refugee camps scattered across the western provinces of Darfur. More than 160,000 have fled across the border to Chad.

The United Nations Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide describes genocide as acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, national, ethnic, racial or religious groups, as such:

Killing members of the group;

Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group;

Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about physical destruction in whole or in part;

Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group;

Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.

After just returning from spending three days and two nights (June 27–29) in Darfur, we believe what is happening there may very well meet this test.

During our trip we visited five refugee camps: Abu Shouk; Tawilah; Krinding; Sisi and Morney—all sprawling tent cities jam-packed with thousands of displaced families and fast becoming breeding grounds for disease and sickness.

We drove past dozens of pillaged villages and walked through what was left of four burned to the ground.

We heard countless stories about rape, murder and plunder.

We even watched the barbarous men—Arab militiamen called Janjaweed—who are carrying out these attacks sitting astride camels and horses just a short distance from where young and old have sought what they had hoped would be a safe harbor.

Janjaweed is roughly translated in Arabic as “wild men on horses with G-3 guns.”

Ruthless, brutal killers, the Janjaweed have instigated a reign of terror on Darfur—a region about the size of Texas—for more than a year. They kill men. They rape women. They abduct children. They torch villages. They dump human corpses and animal carcasses in wells to contaminate the water. Their mandate is essentially doing whatever necessary to force the black African Muslims from their land to never return.

It is clearly the intent of Janjaweed to purge the region of darker-skinned African Muslims, in particular members of the Fur, Zaghawa, and Massaleit tribes.

From where does this mandate come? The Government of Sudan disavows supporting the Janjaweed. Some officials in Khartoum even deny the existence of a humanitarian crisis in the region. Yet the facts prove otherwise. We witnessed the destruction. We heard horrific accounts of violence and intimidation. We talked to rape victims. We saw the scars on men who had been shot. We watched mothers cradle their sick and dying babies, hoping against all odds that their children would survive. We saw armed Janjaweed waiting to prey on innocent victims along the perimeter of refugee camps.

To hear the vivid, heartrending descriptions of the attacks it is clear the Janjaweed have the support—and the approval—of the Government of Sudan to operate with impunity. The same stories were repeated at every camp we visited. The raids would happen early in the morning. First comes the low rumble of a Soviet-made Antonov plane—flown by Sudanese pilots—to bomb the village. Next come helicopter gunships—again, flown by Sudanese pilots—to strafe the village with the huge machine guns mounted on each side. Sometimes the helicopters would land and unload supplies for the Janjaweed. They would then be reloaded with booty confiscated from a village. One man told us he saw cows being loaded onto one helicopter. Moments later, the Janjaweed, some clad in government uniforms, would come galloping in on horseback and camels to finish the job by killing, raping, stealing and plundering.

Walking through the burned out villages we could tell the people living there had little or no time to react. They left everything they owned—lanterns, cookware, water jugs, pottery, plows—and ran for their lives. There was no time to stop and bury their dead.

The Janjaweed made certain that there would be nothing left for the villagers to come home to. Huts were torched. Donkeys, goats and cows were stolen, slaughtered or dumped into wells to poison the water. Grain containers destroyed. In one village we saw where the Janjaweed even burned the mosque.

Only the lucky ones—mostly women and children—made it out alive.

ETHNIC CLEANSING

What is happening in Darfur is rooted in ethnic cleansing. Religion has nothing to do with what unfolded over the last year.

No black African is safe in Darfur. Secularity is non-existent. The Janjaweed are everywhere. Outside the camps. Inside the camps. They walk freely through the marketplace in Geneina, a town in far western Darfur, with guns slung over their shoulders. One shopkeeper, we were told, was shot in

the head by a Janjaweed because he wasn't willing to lower the price of a watermelon.

The Government of Sudan military and security forces also are omnipresent. At each of the places we visited we were either trailed or escorted by a mixture of military regulars, police forces and government "minders." There have been reports that the government has been folding the Janjaweed into its regular forces as a way to disguise and protect them. At two of the camps we visited, we were told the government had inserted spies to report on what was said or to threaten those who talked. We were told the "minders" repeatedly scolded refugees and told them in Arabic to shut up. Yet, even with these restrictions, refugees in every camp we visited were eager to tell their stories.

It should be understood that the Janjaweed are not "taking" the land from the black Muslim farmers they are terrorizing. The Janjaweed, whose historical roots are part of the region's roving nomads who have battled with the African farmers for generations, are employing a government-supported scorched earth policy to drive them out of the region—and perhaps to extinction. It also was clear that only villages inhabited by black African Muslims were being targeted. Arab villages sitting just next to African ones miles from the nearest towns have been left unscathed.

On our first day in the region, we met with local Government of Sudan officials in the town of El Fasher, a two-hour plane ride west of Khartoum. They blame the crisis in the region on two black African rebel groups—the Sudan Liberation Army (SLA) and the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM)—who started an uprising in February 2003 over what they regarded as unjust treatment by the government in their struggle over land and resources with Arab countrymen. The rebel forces actually held El Fasher for a short period last year. A cease-fire was agreed to in April 2004 between the rebel groups and the Government of Sudan, but the Janjaweed have continued to carry out attacks with the support and approval of Khartoum.

While local government officials in El Fasher were adamant in saying there is no connection between the Government of Sudan and the Janjaweed, whom they called "armed bandits," the militiamen we saw did not look like skilled pilots who could fly planes or helicopters.

We also were told the Janjaweed are well armed and well supplied. If they are traditional nomads, how are they getting modern automatic weapons, and, more importantly, from whom? They also are said to have satellite phones, an astonishing fact considering most of the people in the far western provinces of Darfur have probably never even seen or walked on a paved road.

The impunity under which the Janjaweed operate was most telling as we approached the airport in Geneina on our last day in the region for our flight back to Khartoum. In plain sight was an encampment of Janjaweed within shouting distance of a contingent of Government of Sudan regulars. No more than 200 yards separated the two groups. Sitting on the tarmac were two helicopter gunships and a Russian-made Antonov plane.

WORLD'S WORST HUMANITARIAN CRISIS

The situation in Darfur is being described as the worst humanitarian crisis in the world today. We agree. But sadly, and with a great sense of urgency, things are only going to worsen. Some say that even under the best of circumstances, as many as 300,000 Darfuris forced from their homes are expected to die from malnutrition and diarrhea or diseases such as malaria and cholera in

the coming months. Measles have already spread through Abu Shouk, a large refugee camp outside of El Fasher.

According to some predictions, the death toll could reach as high as 1 million by next year. The Dafuri farmers have missed another planting season and will now be dependent on grain and other food stuffs provided by the international community for at least another year. The impending rainy season presents its own set of problems, making roads impassable for food deliveries and the likelihood of disease increasing dramatically with the heavy rains.

The potential for a crisis of catastrophic proportions is very real, especially since none of the villagers we talked to at the refugee camps believed they will be able to go back to their homes anytime soon. Having been brutally terrorized by the Janjaweed and fearing for their lives, they do not believe Government of Sudan officials who say it is safe to return to their villages. We heard stories of some families who went back to their villages only to return to the camps a week later for fear of being attacked again.

The attacks have traumatized thousands of young children. In an effort to cope with what they have endured, programs have been established in the camps to help the young boys and girls deal with their psychological scars. Part of the program encourages them to draw pictures of what they have seen. The crayon drawings are chilling. Huts on fire, red flames shooting through the roof. Planes and helicopters flying overhead shooting bullets. Dead bodies, depictions, perhaps, of their mother or father.

We also saw a group of children who had made clay figures of men on camels and horseback attacking villages. There is no way to measure the impact of these atrocities on the thousands of children living in these camps. Their lives are forever scarred.

The first step in resolving this crisis is disarming the Janjaweed. It must be done swiftly and universally. If not, the Janjaweed will just bury their weapons in the sand, wait for the pressure from the international community to lift, then reinstate their reign of terror.

A system of justice overseen by outside monitors must also be implemented. The heinous, murderous acts carried out by the Janjaweed cannot go unpunished. War crimes and crimes against humanity clearly have been—and continue to be—committed. Those responsible must be brought to justice.

DIFFICULT LIFE IN IDP CAMPS

Abu Shouk was the first of five IDP (Internally Displaced People) camps we visited. More than 40,000 people live in this sprawling tent city, created in April after El Fasher was overrun with displaced families. Methodically laid out with water stations, a health clinic, a supplemental feeding station and crude latrines, it is being hailed as a "model" by humanitarian relief workers in the region.

However, aid workers at Abu Shouk are deeply concerned. They observe that the malnutrition rate at this "model" camp is a staggering eight to nine deaths every day, and fear what is happening at the other camps, especially in the more remote areas of Darfur that have not been reached by humanitarian groups.

Life in the camps is difficult. Crude shelters made from straw and sticks and covered with plastic sheeting stretch as far as the eye can see. Families arriving at the camps—almost all after walking for days in the hot sun from their now abandoned villages—are only given a tarp, a water jug, cookware and a small amount of grain.

The sanitary conditions are wretched. The sandy conditions make building latrines dif-

ficult. At Mornay, the largest of the IDP camps in Darfur with more than 70,000 inhabitants, it was hard not to step in either human or animal feces as we walked. In a few weeks, when the heavy rains begin, excrement will flow across the entire camp. Mortality from diarrhea, which we were told represents one-third of the deaths in the camps, will only increase.

To their credit, all the non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that have been allowed to operate in Darfur have done—and continue to do—a tremendous job under extremely trying circumstances. The Government of Sudan has repeatedly thrown up roadblocks to bringing in aid. It has denied or slowed visa processing for relief workers. It has kept aid vehicles locked up in customs for weeks at a time. It has blocked relief groups from bringing in radios. It has limited access to certain regions of the country. All this has made getting medicine, food and other humanitarian supplies like plastic sheeting and water jugs an uphill battle. While the Government of Sudan plays its games, people are dying as needed aid sits on tarmacs.

As we approached the Mornay camp on the last day of our three-day trip, we were stopped by Government of Sudan soldiers and security officers. They followed us throughout the camp, watching with whom we talked. Amazingly, their presence did not inhibit the refugees from recanting the horrors from which they escaped—and for some, mostly women, continue to endure.

The men said while they feel somewhat secure inside the confines of the camps, they dare not venture outside for fear of being shot or killed by the Janjaweed. They showed us scars on their arms and legs of the gunshot wounds they received while escaping from their villages. They are despondent over the fact that they are unable to provide food for their families because they cannot farm their fields. They expressed utter sadness and outrage about their wives and daughters who venture outside the borders of the camp to collect firewood and straw, knowing the fate that awaits them at the hands of the Janjaweed. Life and death decisions are made every day: send the men out and risk death or send the women out and risk rape.

Rape is clearly another weapon being used by the Janjaweed. Rapes, we were told, happen almost daily to the women who venture outside the confines of the camps in search of firewood and straw. They leave very early in the morning, hoping to evade their tormentors before they awake. With the camps swelling in size and nearby resources dwindling, they often walk several miles. The farther the women go from the camp, the greater the risk of being attacked by the Janjaweed. As we approached Mornay, we saw a number of Janjaweed resting with their camels and horses along the perimeter of the camp, easily within walking distance.

We heard the horrific story of four young girls—two of whom were sisters—who had been raped just days before we arrived. They had left the camp to collect straw to feed the family's donkey when they were attacked. They said their attackers told them they were slaves and that their skin was too dark. As they were being raped, they said the Janjaweed told them they were hoping to make more lighter-skinned babies.

One of the four women assaulted, too shy to tell her story in front of men, privately told a female journalist traveling with us that if anyone were to find out she had been raped, she would never be able to marry.

We were told that some of the rape victims were being branded on their back and arms by the Janjaweed, permanently labeling the women. We heard the chilling account of the rape of a 9-year-old girl.

We also received a letter during our trip from a group of women who were raped. To protect them further attacks, we purposely do not mention where they are from or list their names. The translation is heart-breaking:

"Messrs Members of the US. Congress

"Peace and the mercy and the blessings of God be upon you.

"We thank you for your help and for standing by the weak of the world, wherever they are found. We welcome you to the (. . .) region, which was devastated by the Janjaweed, or what is referred to as the government 'horse- and camel-men,' on Friday (. . . 2004), when they caused havoc by killing and burning and committing plunder and rape. This was carried out with the help of the government, which used the (. . .) region as an airport and supplied the Janjaweed with munitions and supplies. So we, the raped woman of the (. . .) region, would like to explain to you what has happened and God is our best witness.

"We are forty-four raped women. As a result of that savagery, some of us became pregnant, some have aborted, some took out their wombs and some are still receiving medical treatment. Hereunder, we list the names of the raped women and state that we have high hopes in you and the international community to stand by us and not to forsake us to this tyrannical, brutal and racist regime, which wants to eliminate us racially, bearing in mind that 90 percent of our sisters at (. . .) are widows."

"(Above) are the names of some of the women raped in the (. . .) region. Some of these individuals are now at (. . .), some are at Tawilah and some are at Abu Shouk camps. Everything we said is the absolute truth. These girls were raped in front of our fathers and husbands.

"We hope that you and the international community will continue to preserve the balance of the peoples and nations.

"Thank you.

From: The raped women at (. . .)."

These rape victims have nowhere to turn. Even if they report the attacks to the police, they know nothing will happen. The police, the military and the Janjaweed all appear to be acting in coordination.

DIRE SITUATION IS MAN-MADE

The situation in Darfur is dire, and from what we could see, it is entirely man-made. These people who had managed to survive even the severest droughts and famines during the course of their long history are now in mortal danger of being wiped out simply because of the darker shade of their skin color.

Over the course of three days, we saw the worst of man's inhumanity to man, but we also saw the best of what it means to be human: mothers waiting patiently for hours in the hot sun so that they could try to save their babies; NGO aid workers and volunteer doctors feeding and caring for the sick and the dying, and the courage and bravery of men, women and children eager to talk to us so that we would know their story.

The world made a promise in 1994 to never again allow the systematic destruction of a people or race. "Never again"—words said, too, after the Holocaust. In Darfur, the international community has a chance to stop history from repeating itself. It also has a chance to end this nightmare for those who have found a way to survive. If the international community fails to act, the next cycle of this crisis will begin. The destiny facing the people of Darfur will be death from hunger or disease.

When will the death of innocent men, women and children who want nothing more in this world than to be left alone to farm

their land and provide for their families—be too much for the conscience of the international community to bear?

We sat with the victims. We heard their mind-numbing stories. We saw their tears. Now the world has seen the pictures and heard the stories. We cannot say we did not know when history judges the year 2004 in Darfur.

RECOMMENDATIONS THE GOVERNMENT OF SUDAN

The Government of Sudan should immediately implement key provisions of the April 8 cease-fire agreement, including: the cessation of attacks against civilians; disarming the Janjaweed; and removing all barriers to the admittance of international aid into Darfur. There should be a strict timetable holding the Government of Sudan accountable for implementing these provisions.

The Government of Sudan should renew a dialogue with the Sudan Liberation Army and the Justice and Equality Movement to discuss the political, economic and social roots of the crisis.

THE AFRICAN UNION

Additional cease-fire observers should be deployed and violations of the cease-fire reported immediately. The current number of 270 is inadequate to monitor the activity of an area the size of Texas.

THE UNITED STATES

The United States should publically identify those responsible for the atrocities occurring in Darfur, including officials and other individuals of the Government of Sudan, as well as Janjaweed militia commanders, and impose targeted sanctions that include travel bans and the freezing of assets.

The President should instruct the U.S. Representative to the United Nations to seek an official investigation and hold accountable officials of the Government of Sudan and government-supported militia groups responsible for the atrocities in Darfur.

THE UNITED NATIONS

The United Nations should pass a strong Security Council Resolution condemning the Government of Sudan. It should call for: an immediate end to the attacks; the immediate disarming of the Janjaweed; the immediate protection of civilians by beginning a review of the security of refugees in Darfur; the determination of the feasibility of sending in UN protection forces; an immediate review of bringing legal action against those responsible for the policies of ethnic cleansing, crimes against humanity and war crimes in Darfur; and the imposition of targeted sanctions that include travel bans and the freezing of assets.

The United Nations should immediately deploy human rights monitors to Darfur.

The protection of civilians and access to humanitarian aid should be a primary concern; the Security Council must be prepared to establish a no fly zone if the cease-fire continues to be violated.

The United Nations together with other organizations should continue to coordinate a relief strategy for getting aid into those regions of Darfur that have yet to receive humanitarian assistance. Alternative routes and means of delivering aid should be considered if the Government of Sudan continues to impede deliveries.

The United Nations should take immediate steps to seek the removal of Sudan from the United Nations Commission on Human Rights.

The United Nations should set a deadline for the Government of Sudan to comply to all obligations under the cease-fire and prepare contingency plans in the event those deadlines are not met.

We would like to thank everyone involved in organizing, coordinating and implementing our trip. Representatives from the State Department, USAID and the NGOs both in Washington and Sudan deserve special thanks. We would also like to thank Sean Woo, general counsel to Senator Brownback, and Dan Scandling, chief of staff to Rep. Wolf, for accompanying us on the trip. They played a critical role in writing this report and took all the photographs. We would also like to thank Janet Shaffron, legislative director, and Samantha Stockman, foreign affairs legislative assistant, to Rep. Wolf, and Brian Hart, communications director, and Josh Carter, legislative aide, of Senator Sam Brownback, for editing the report. Colin Samples, an intern in Rep. Wolf's office, did the design and layout.

We also want to extend our thanks to Secretary of State Colin Powell and UN Secretary General Kofi Annan for visiting the region. Their personal involvement in working to resolve this crisis is critically important.

IN RECOGNITION OF PHILIP D. WHITE

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Fire Chief Philip D. White on the occasion of his retirement after more than 30 years of excellent service at the South San Francisco Fire Department, ten of them as chief. Chief White has saved many lives—human and animal—and brought safety and peace of mind to all residents.

He came to the South San Francisco Fire Department as a paramedic and firefighter in 1983. In 1992 he was promoted to Fire Captain and in 1999 he advanced to Provisional Battalion Chief and Battalion Chief. In 2002 he was promoted to Deputy Chief and then finally to Fire Chief in 2003.

During his distinguished career, Chief White has served with contagious enthusiasm and earned a long list of awards and acknowledgements. For example, he was named 1992 Firefighter of the Year by the South San Francisco Post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He received a commendation from FEMA for urban search and rescue deployments during Hurricane Iniki, the Northridge earthquake, the World Trade Center and Hurricane Katrina. He received a service award from the Peninsula Council of Lions Clubs in 2001 and was named the 2003 City of South San Francisco Employee of the Year. Also in 2003, he received a special commendation from the United States Marine Corps for the "Yellow Ribbon" resolution passed in support of military families. In 2011 he was honored with the California Commendation Medal for meritorious service and support of soldiers and airmen of the California Army and Air National Guard.

This long list of honors demonstrates Chief White's tireless energy and commitment to others. He has made South San Francisco a better place to live by introducing ordinances and programs that will serve residents for decades to come. Chief White was instrumental in developing technical rescue, maritime and emergency response programs. He helped make new buildings safer by requiring sprinkler systems. His colleagues can also thank